Montana State Parks 2008 Visitation

Visitation statistics are important to understanding use and managing a park. The number of visits at Montana State Parks are primarily determined using magnetic-loop traffic counters, then applying multipliers for the number of people in each vehicle, percentages of residents and ovenight stays.

2008 STATEWIDE TOTALS

		Number			Number	% Non-	Number				Number
		Visitor		% MT	MT	MT	Non-MT		Number	%	Overnight
Region	Walk-In	Vehicles	Total Visits	Residents	Residents	Residents	Residents	% Day Use	Day Users	Overnight	Users
1	31,179	166,512	391,037	78%	306,936	22%	84,101	84%	331,852	16%	59,184
2	4,868	66,118	174,105	77%	132,955	23%	41,150	78%	137,093	22%	37,012
3	7,359	110,204	287,417	81%	230,478	19%	56,939	86%	247,042	14%	40,375
4	6,319	144,769	354,650	96%	338,830	4%	15,820	98%	349,242	2%	5,408
5	10,337	130,710	352,383	88%	309,295	12%	43,088	96%	336,406	4%	15,977
6	0	2,484	6,210	97%	6,046	3%	164	100%	6,210	0%	0
7	110	59,125	163,558	78%	127,592	22%	35,966	71%	116,070	29%	47,487
1	TOTAL ANNU	AL VISITS*	1,815,828	84%		16%		88%		12%	

^{*}Total annual visits figure includes a five percent adjustment to account for sites with limited data collection equipment and staff, or where use is difficult to measure due to winter season use, walk-ins or multiple entrances.

STATEWIDE VISITATION TRENDS 1999-2008

Year	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total Visits	1,483,844	1,488,311	1,344,496	1,468,594	1,607,417	1,649,291	1,747,937	1,853,560	1,916,804	1,815,828
Change from Prior Year	up 1%	up 1%	down 9%	up 9%	up 9%	up 3%	up 6%	up 6%	up 3%	down 5%

STATEWIDE RESIDENCY TRENDS 1999-2008

Year	% MT Residents	% Non-MT Residents
1999	68%	32%
2000	71%	29%
2001	75%	25%
2002	70%	30%
2003	70%	30%
2004	73%	27%
2005	79%	21%
2006	79%	21%
2007	82%	18%
2008	84%	16%

STATEWIDE DAY USE AND OVERNIGHT USE ESTIMATES 2004-2008

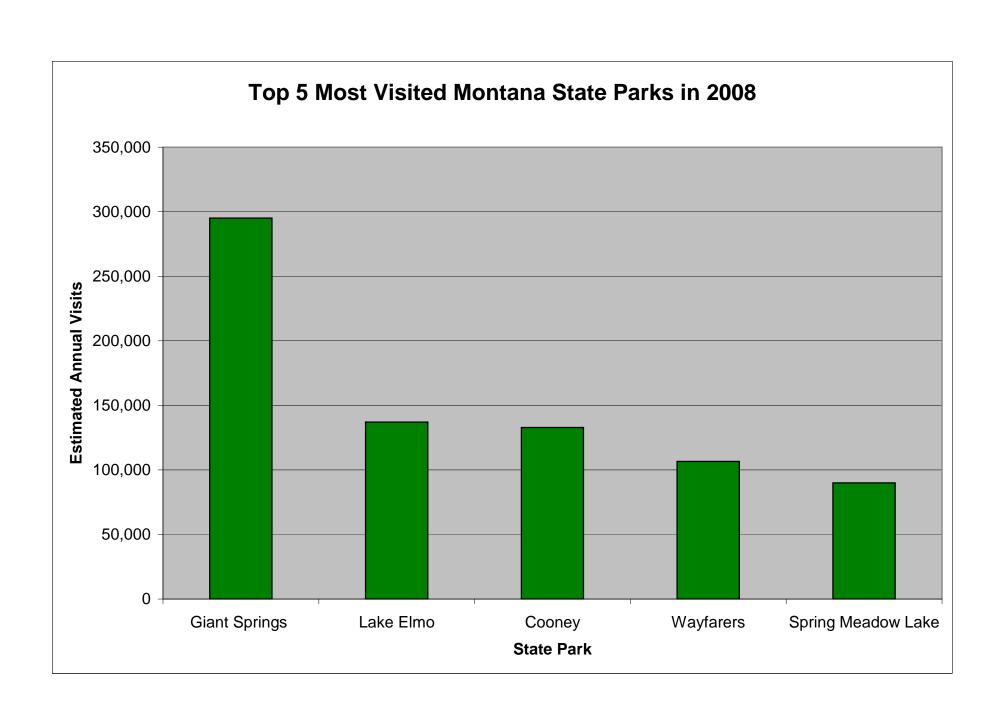
				Number
			%	Overnight
Year	Total Visits	% Day Use	Overnight	Users
2004	1,649,291	86%	14%	229,334
2005	1,751,031	86%	14%	245,697
2006	1,853,560	87%	13%	247,900
2007	1,916,804	88%	12%	230,016
2008	1.815.828	88%	12%	217,899

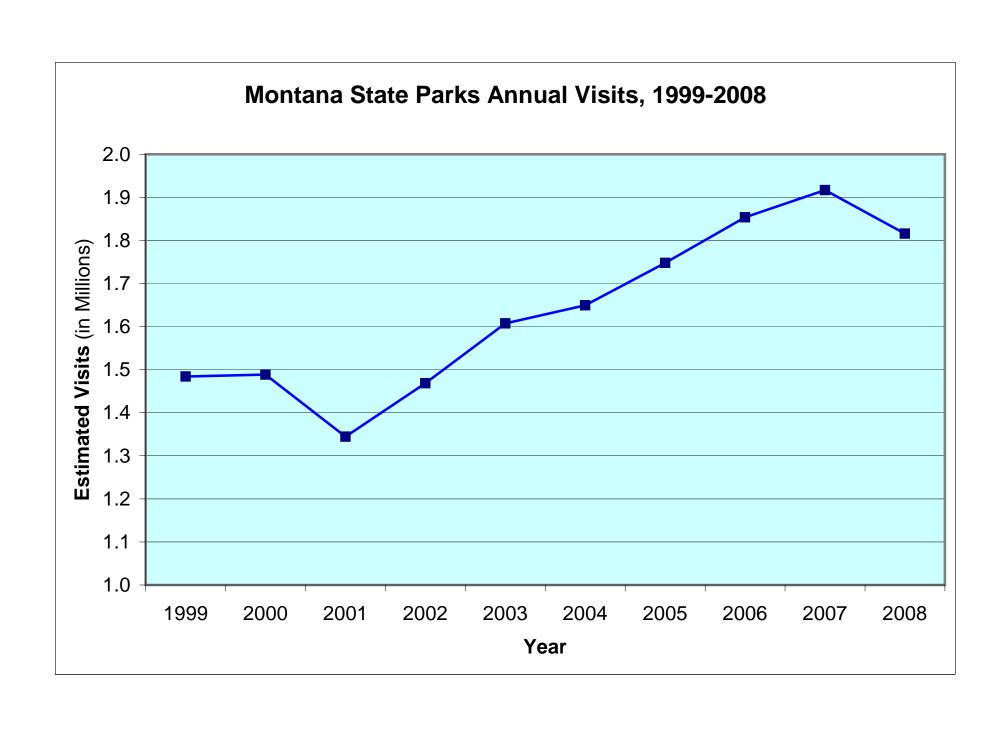
REGIONAL VISITATION TRENDS 2004-2008

						2007	to '08
Region	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	# change	% change
1	281,566	294,710	344,229	358,046	391,037	32,991	9%
2	173,499	186,595	205,545	173,908	174,105	197	0%
3	354,341	314,466	345,139	326,814	287,417	-39,397	-12%
4	227,097	268,747	326,238	355,415	354,650	-765	0%
5	361,181	381,117	334,458	400,033	352,383	-47,650	-12%
6	n/a	2,500	3,923	5,491	6,210	719	13%
7	193,454	216,567	205,763	205,858	163,558	-42,300	-21%

2008 State Parks Visitation

Park	Total Visits
Ackley Lake	17,469
Anaconda Smelter Stack	9,400
Bannack	30,856
Beavertail Hill	14,632
Big Arm	31,331
Black Sandy	80,270
Brush Lake	6,210
Chief Plenty Coups	43,275
Clark's Lookout	15,027
Cooney	132,844
Council Grove	25,410
Elkhorn	1,564
Finley Point	15,766
First Peoples Buffalo Jump	16,883
Flathead Lake (6) Parks Total	216,477
Fort Owen	4,122
Frenchtown Pond	21,433
Giant Springs	295,149
Granite	470
Hell Creek	
Lake Elmo	22,238 137,034
Lake Mary Ronan	
Lewis & Clark Caverns	20,141
	50,984
Logan Lone Pine	19,324 76,517
Lost Creek	18,547
Madison Buffalo Jump	2,466
Makoshika	
Medicine Rocks	62,671 19,180
Missouri Headwaters	16,299
Painted Rocks	11,641
Pictograph Cave	34,899
Pirogue Island	7,214
Placid Lake	33,049
Greycliff Prairie Dog Town	4,332
Rosebud Battlefield	7,972
Salmon Lake	18,229
Sluice Boxes	10,690
Smith River	4,786
Spring Meadow Lek	89,953
Thompson Falls	4,648
Tongue River Reservoir	44,283
Tower Rock	9,671
Travelers' Rest	17,172
Wayfarers	106,527
West Shore	24,074
Whitefish	53,929
Wild Horse Island	
Yellow Bay	17,946
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Montana Fishing Access Sites Estimated Use

Visitation statistics are important to understanding use and managing a fishing access site. Due to the lack of staffing and wide dispersal of fishing access sites, visitation is determined at representative sites using magnetic-loop traffic counters. These statistics help indicate use at sites without counters and relative trends within FWP regions.

Estimated Visits By Region 2005-2008

REGION	2005	% change 2004-05	2006	% change 2005-06	2007	% change 2006-07	2008	% change 2007-08
Region 1	469,192	9%	494,582	5%	516,296	4%	430,077	-17%
Region 2	809,716	-2%	767,816	-5%	748,527	-3%	858,493	15%
Region 3	1,384,251	34%	1,374,853	-1%	1,247,255	-9%	1,358,678	9%
Region 4	290,086	-11%	239,035	-18%	224,163	-6%	208,967	-7%
Region 5	694,048	11%	571,184	-18%	511,920	-10%	399,088	-22%
Region 6	84,544	36%	111,151	31%	106,600	-4%	109,062	2%
Region 7	310,275	-6%	346,608	12%	189,583	-45%	363,339	92%
Total	4,042,112	11%	3,905,229	-3%	3,544,344	-9%	3,727,704	5%

Statewide Trends 1999-2008

YEAR	FAS VISITS
1999	5.8 million
2000	4.8 million
2001	4.4 million
2002	3.6 million
2003	3.7 million
2004	3.6 million
2005	4 million
2006	3.9 million
2007	3.5 million
2008	3.7 million

Resident Use By Region 2005-08

Resident Use By Region 2005-08								
	% MT Residents							
	2005	2006	2007	2008				
Region 1	91%	90%	90%	90%				
Region 2	85%	82%	84%	82%				
Region 3	68%	68%	68%	68%				
Region 4	82%	88%	94%	96%				
Region 5	82%	83%	80%	72%				
Region 6	95%	95%	96%	97%				
Region 7	86%	85%	85%	88%				
Total	79%	77%	80%	79%				

Overnight Use By Region 2005-08

	% Overnight Visits						
	2005	2006	2007	2008			
Region 1	1%	1%	1%	1%			
Region 2	3%	2%	2%	2%			
Region 3	1%	1%	1%	1%			
Region 4	11%	11%	6%	6%			
Region 5	10%	11%	17%	21%			
Region 6	6%	4%	2%	1%			
Region 7	2%	10%	5%	5%			
Total	4%	3%	4%	4%			